

**Sudan deputies protest penal code**

KHARTOUM (R) — Opposition members from southern Sudan walked out of parliament Monday in protest at the presentation of a draft penal code based on Sharia law. The 22 members of the Union of Sudanese African Parties (USAAP), the main opposition group, left to jeers from government parliamentarians after the speaker refused to allow their leader, Elba James Surur, to address the house. Surur had wanted to read a statement denouncing the draft code as an obstacle to peace efforts in the south, where autonomy-seeking rebels have been fighting the government since 1983. The draft code would exclude the south, whose people are mainly animists or Christians, from Sharia punishments (hudud) such as the stoning of adulterers, the flogging of drinkers and the amputation of thieves' hands. But Surur described it as unconstitutional and said it would foster hatred and confusion among Sudan's ethnically and religiously diverse peoples. The 301-seat parliament, where Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's coalition government has a comfortable majority, was due to start debate on the new code Tuesday but the USAAP said it would boycott the session.

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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جordan Times يومية ميسانية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الرأي»

**AROUND THE WORLD...****UAE ministers arrive in Egypt**

CAIRO (R) — Six ministers from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) arrived in Cairo Monday for political and economic consultations, including openings for UAE investments in Egypt. The head of the team, Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammad Al Nahyan, said on arrival he hoped to boost cooperation with Egypt. "The Emirates appreciate the deep and good relations between our two countries and hope they will be promoted further and further," he said. The UAE delegation, which includes Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi and Minister of Economy and Trade Seif Ali Al Jarwan, is due to discuss investment proposals with Egypt, officials said.

**Bhopal hearing delayed until October**

BHOPAL (AP) — A judge postponed a hearing Monday on the government's \$3 billion lawsuit against Union Carbide that seeks compensation for the 1984 gas disaster in which 2,800 people died and more than 20,000 were injured. Bhopal district Judge M.W. Deo reset the hearing for Oct. 1 after both sides said the supreme court had yet to rule on an earlier order granting interim relief to those injured in the world's worst industrial accident.

**Australia doubles UNRWA contribution**

VIENNA (Agencies) — The government of Australia has announced that it will be contributing \$2 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in 1989. In 1988, Australia contributed \$505,000 to the agency's general programmes, \$142,000 to UNRWA's special programmes for the occupied territories and \$360,000 for the construction of an UNRWA school at Sur Baher, West Bank. Part of the 1989 contribution will be used to complete work on the Sur Baher school.

**Iranian poet Tabrizi dies at 83**

NICOSIA (AP) — One of Iran's best known poets, Mohammad Hussein Behjat Tabrizi, who wrote under the nom de plume of Shahryar, has died, aged 83, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The agency said he died in a Tehran hospital "after a long period of illness," but gave no other details. IRNA did not list any of his works, but said that he was famed in Oriental literary circles as far afield as Europe and the United States for his poetry in Farsi.

**Manila welcomes Soviet proposal**

MANILA (R) — A senior Manila official welcomed Monday a Soviet offer to withdraw from a major naval base in Vietnam in exchange for elimination of U.S. bases in the Philippines. "It brings good news of good intentions. I'll be happier if it's implemented," Foreign Under-Secretary Manuel Yan told reporters. President Corazon Aquino said Saturday such a move would be up to the superpowers.

**China willing to help Iran reconstruction**

PEKING (R) — China is ready to do its best to help Iran rebuild its war-ravaged economy. Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun told the head of Iran's reconstruction work Monday, "China and Iran are friendly countries... China is willing to do its best towards Iran's reconstruction." Tian was quoted by state radio as saying. Hamid Mirzadeh is heading a delegation of trade officials attending the Iran-China joint economic commission in Peking.

**Murphy holds brief talks in Paris**

PARIS (AP) — U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, en route home after efforts to help divert a new political crisis in Lebanon, met Monday with French Foreign Ministry officials to discuss the situation, the Foreign Ministry said. No details were made public and it was not immediately clear with whom Murphy met during his stopover here. Murphy met with both Syrian and Lebanese officials in Damascus and Beirut, including Lebanese President Amin Gemayel whose six-year term expires Friday (see page 5).

**Israeli envoy to Cairo presents credentials**

CAIRO (AP) — Israel's new ambassador to Egypt presented his credentials to President Hosni Mubarak Monday, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. The agency said Shimon Shamir was among 11 ambassadors who presented their credentials to Mubarak. Shamir is Israel's third ambassador to Cairo since the two countries signed a treaty in 1979.

**Carbomb explodes in Johannesburg**

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A stolen car loaded with limpet mines exploded Monday in a garage underneath an apartment building, injuring a child and damaging more than 30 cars, police said. Police said the pre-dawn blast was one of the most powerful of more than 40 bombings in South Africa this year. Most of the previous bombings have been blamed by authorities on the African National Congress movement.

**Colombo announces polls in northeast**

COLOMBO (AP) — The government Monday announced the beginning of the election process to a local administrative council in the northeastern province, a move aimed at ending the five-year-old war by Tamil rebels for a separate state. The election department said in a statement that nominations for the 71 seats on the council would be received from Oct. 3-10. "The date of elections will be announced after the nominations are received," Election Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva said.

**Egypt foils drug smuggling bid**

CAIRO (AP) — Coast guard units repelled a large vessel and eight small launches that entered Egypt's territorial waters off Sinai with large quantities of drugs, a Foreign Ministry officials said Monday. In a statement distributed by the Middle East News Agency, the unidentified official said the incident occurred Sunday 15 kilometres off the Mediterranean town of Al Arish, 50 kilometres west of the border with Israel. The statement said all but one of the vessels fled after opening fire on an investigating helicopter. It said the coast guard had been alerted that a smuggling operation was planned to bring in five tons of drugs.

**Captors repeat offer to free hostages**

BEIRUT (R) — A shadowy group holding three Americans and an Indian in Lebanon made a fresh demand Sunday for a positive U.S. response on its call for recognition of Palestinian rights. "This is a period for positive action, so don't waste this opportunity by provoking us through negative reactions," said the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine in a statement sent to an international news agency in west Beirut. "The hostage case should be positively solved and the U.S. administration should carry out its responsibilities," the group said without elaborating. A coloured Polaroid photograph of Americans Jesse Turner, Alana Steen and Robert Polhill and Indian Mithileshwar Singh accompanied the statement.

## Israel axes Palestinian education programmes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — In a fresh offensive against the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, the Israeli army closed down 22 adult education programmes in the West Bank Monday, prompting protests by hundreds of Palestinians, witnesses said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, an 18-year-old Palestinian died of wounds he suffered in clashes with Israeli troops last week, the man's relatives said.

His death raised to 279 the number of Palestinians killed since the start of the uprising Dec. 8.

Soldiers shot and wounded three Palestinians Monday, including a 15-year-old boy struck in the stomach, after Palestinian protesters stoned them in the West Bank towns of Nablus and Qalqilya, hospital officials said.

The latest casualties brought to 55 the number of Palestinians wounded in the last three days. The Haaretz daily attributed the rising numbers of Palestinian casualties to the widening use of plastic bullets and said soldiers are permitted to fire them even if their lives are not in danger.

Haaretz quoted military sources as saying this allowed troops to be as tough as possible with demonstrators without risking large numbers of fatalities.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that new army measures has increased injuries but contended that they would reduce Palestinian protests.

Troops shot and wounded 15 demonstrators in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Sun-

day, Palestinians and security sources said.

A day earlier, two Palestinians were killed and 40 wounded in unrest on the anniversary of the 1982 Sabra and Shatila massacre during which the protesters, who wore white T-shirts emblazoned with "Hamas," carried Palestinian flags and Islamic banners.

A Palestinian suspected of collaborating with Israel was injured when he was hit on his motorcycle by an assailant driving a stolen truck, witnesses said.

After the accident late Sunday, masked Palestinians torched the home of Ahmad Dabagh, 30, who lived in the village of Howara, near Nablus, the witnesses said.

Soldiers stopped a group of American citizens touring the West Bank town of Ramallah Sunday and confiscated their passports, an American consular official said. He was to meet them Monday to clarify what had happened, he said.

An Israeli boy aged 16 was in a critical condition after being stabbed by an Arab youth at a school near Haifa. Police said they had arrested the assailant.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli was sentenced to 20 months' imprisonment for attempted arson and damaging Arab cars, army radio reported.

schools in the Gaza Strip remain closed on army orders.

Monday's closures prompted widespread protests in Nablus, where hundreds of Palestinians marched in the city's open-air market waving Palestinian flags and chanting anti-Israeli slogans, witnesses quoted by the AP said.

Dozens of school children flew kites bearing the red, green, yellow and black of the Palestinian flag, the witnesses said.

Also in Nablus, 200 masked supporters of the Islamic group Hamas held a separate march during which the protesters, who wore white T-shirts emblazoned with "Hamas," carried Palestinian flags and Islamic banners.

A Palestinian suspected of collaborating with Israel was injured when he was hit on his motorcycle by an assailant driving a stolen truck, witnesses said.

Palestinians reported stone and bottle-throwing protests in a number of places in the occupied territories.

In the West Bank's largest city of Nablus, troops closed down 22 adult education programmes that taught courses in computer programming, mathematics, chemistry and English, Arab witnesses said.

The action was part of an ongoing Israeli effort to stifle the growth of a grass-roots Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories.

Israel has shut down more than 320 trade unions, professional organisations and local committees in the West Bank and Gaza.

In addition, all schools in the West Bank and junior and high



Israeli soldiers arrest two Palestinians in Nablus

## Aziz: Zionist lobby damages American-Iraqi relations

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq Monday blamed pro-Israeli lobbyists in the U.S. Congress for damaging its relations with the United States.

"If the U.S. administration wants to resume good relations which started several years ago, Iraq's position will be reciprocal," Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz told foreign reporters.

"But if it yields to the Zionist lobby and the group in the Senate, this will have a negative effect on relations."

The Senate infuriated Baghdad 10 days ago by voting for economic sanctions against Iraq for its

alleged use of poison gas against Kurdish rebels — a charge it has repeatedly denied.

Iraq and the Arab states said U.S. charges over chemical warfare were intended to distract attention from the Palestinian uprising and to undermine Iraq in peace talks with Iran.

Azziz said any change in Iraq's now strained relations with Washington "depends on what the U.S. administration will do vis-a-vis the pressure group in the U.S. Senate."

The Senate bill, not yet approved by the House of Representatives or signed by President

(Continued on page 5)

## Israel launches 'spy' satellite

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel successfully launched its first satellite, Horizon-1, Monday, the Israeli space agency announced. It was believed to contain an orbiting spy satellite.

The launching made Israel only the eighth country known to possess a rocket powerful enough to put a satellite into space.

The head of the Israeli space agency, professor Yuval Neeman, said a rocket, launched at 11:32 a.m. (0932 GMT), placed the satellite into low earth orbit, where it would send back data for about a month before burning out.

He compared the Israeli space shot to the Soviet Union's 1957 Sputnik satellite which began the U.S.-Soviet space race.

"I cannot go into details but it was very clean work," he said.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres sought to discount fears that Israel's decision to orbit the craft would push Arab countries to obtain more weapons.

"It's not an arms race," Peres

(Continued on page 5)

## 25 wounded in Karabakh clash

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Members of feuding ethnic groups clashed in a disputed region of the southern Soviet Union, wounding 25 people, TASS and activists reported Monday.

It was one of the most violent clashes in the months-long campaign for control of Nagorno-Karabakh, an Armenian-populated area that has been part of the Republic of Azerbaijan since 1923.

In an account which differed sharply with previous reports from the region, TASS said Azerbaijanis were among the wounded in "mass fighting" at Khadzhal, near the Nagorno-Karabakh capital of Stepanakert.

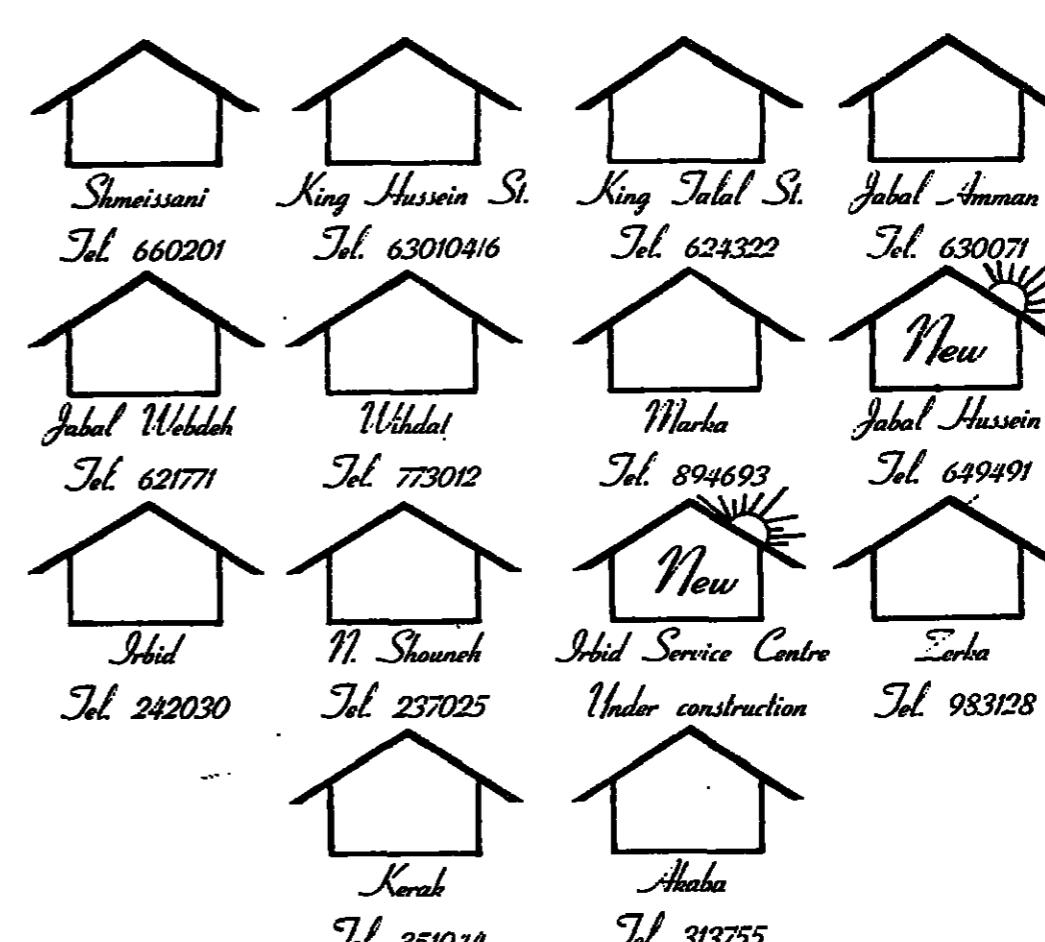
The news agency said demonstrators left a rally Sunday in Stepanakert, for the nearby village of Khadzhal, and that clashes broke out when they arrived.

"Firearms and sidearms were used in mass-scale fights on both sides," TASS said in a dispatch from Stepanakert. "As a

(Continued on page 5)

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## JVA approves 14 new housing estates

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) has approved of 14 sites in the Jordan Valley for new housing estates.

A statement issued after a JVA board meeting said that the board had received requests for the new housing estates from municipalities and village councils within the Jordan Valley region, and that the board had introduced minor amendments before final approval for the projects was given.

The statement said that the board meeting, which was chaired by Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakheel referred the plans to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the environment which will now arrange for the local councils to embark on the new projects.

According to the statement, the board awarded tenders for survey work to be carried out at 16 new sites in the Jordan Valley where the surveyors will help in a general re-organisation plan. It said that the decisions have been taken to pave the way for a general distribution of new housing units.

The JVA takes charge of all matters related to housing, agriculture, school building, social affairs and other services in the Jordan Valley region.

JVA President Mochammad Bani Hani last September attended a meeting for JVA officials and Jordan Valley farmers, and announced that housing problems require cooperation between the authority and local inhabitants.

Bani Hani also said that JVA officials were busily working on plans which would ensure a fair distribution of agricultural units to farmers in the Jordan Valley.



Minister of Labour Marwan Dudin Monday security services in Arab countries (Petra photo)

## 6-day seminar to promote social security services in Arab states

AMMAN (Petra) — A six-day seminar on promoting social security services in Arab states opened in Amman Monday with the participation of 10 Arab countries including Jordan.

Minister of Labour Marwan Dudin who opened the sessions called on the delegates to try to develop social security services in their countries to go hand in hand with economic development and to provide prosperity for Arab people.

Social security services in Jordan are considered by the government as rights for all citizens in accordance with national laws and in line with international agreements and recommendations by Arab countries, Dudin noted.

Jordan, he said, believes in collective Arab action which aims

to serve citizens and their well-being, and in social security services which are bound to contribute to the country's economic and social development.

The seminar was addressed by Salah Siraj, director of the Kharroub-based Arab Social Security Centre, which organised the meeting, in cooperation with the Social Security Corporation (SSC) in Amman.

Siraj outlined the centre's activities including seminars and conference since its establishment in 1981.

## Japan donates computers worth \$300,000 to TCC

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Japanese government Monday presented the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) with a set of testing machines and computers as a gift to help it promote its telecommunications services in Amman.

Ismail voiced Jordan's deep appreciation of the gift which is worth \$300,000, and which comes in the course of Japanese technical assistance programme to

Jordan. During the meeting, Ismail and the ambassador reviewed cooperation between Jordan and Japan in telecommunications and discussed possible further development.

Watanabe later visited the TCC's satellite communications department.

Since 1973, Japan has been extending technical assistance and providing experts to the TCC, and has presented the corporation with three telecommunications apparatuses worth \$350,000 according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

## Hamzeh opens new integrated health centre

AMMAN (Petra) — An integrated health centre was opened in Jabal Luweibeh Monday to offer services to an estimated 35,000 citizens.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh who opened the new centre underlined the importance of primary health care services offered by the Ministry of Health through similar centres around the country, and said they reduce pressure on hospitals.

A large number of patients are now turning to these centres, not to hospitals, for treatment

and for simple surgical operations," the minister noted.

He said it is up to the centres' doctors and specialists to refer some of the patients to hospitals for treatment depending on their individual cases.

By introducing this form of service, the Ministry of Health has thus reduced the need for more hospitals in the country which opens the way for existing hospitals to improve the quality of their service; the minister added.

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Editorial Director:  
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:  
RADI AL WAQIFI

Editor-in-Chief:  
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366  
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
Facsimile: 661242

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## Brotherly duties

LEBANESE President Amin Gemayel's term is fast drawing to an end with no solution in sight to the deadlock over the election of a new president. The last attempt by Lebanon's parliament to elect a new president on August 18 failed because it did not achieve the necessary quorum.

Since then, several regional and international efforts to break the deadlock have all been in vain. The election of a new president in Lebanon has come to symbolise the crisis that hit Lebanon since the civil war broke out in 1975.

What grieves us is to see waves of foreign emissaries visiting the Lebanese capital to help break the political logjam that has paralysed the election of a new chief executive in Lebanon, without a parallel Arab effort. President Gemayel was right when he accused the Arab World of neglecting its brotherly duties and obligations towards Lebanon to end its thirteen years old civil strife.

Syria's efforts to stabilise the political arena in Lebanon need to be fortified and assisted by other Arab countries. Above all, the final arbiter of Lebanon's fate and future must be the Lebanese people, regardless of their faith, creed or ethnic origins.

September 23, the date on which incumbent President Amin Gemayel's term ends, is fast approaching. Only an Arab miracle can break the deadlock in Beirut, and this is the time to perform that miracle, by a more concerted Arab effort to rescue Lebanon from its impending disaster.

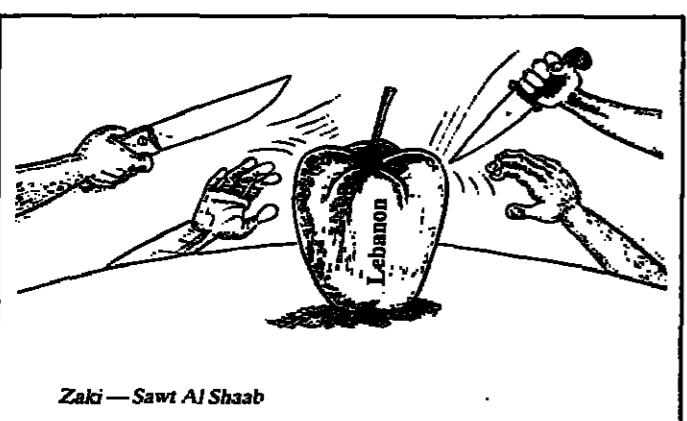
## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Room for more

THE question of admission at Jordanian universities continues to obsess the government which is trying to make room for more students. Directives by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, have prompted the government to give serious attention to the problem; and prompted the Council of Higher Education to increase the number of university students this year by 25 per cent over those of the previous years. These directives were no doubt responsible for this year's acceptance of 1,300 more students in Jordanian universities which we believe are capable of admitting additional numbers. According to Ministry of Education figures, more than 5,684 students passed their Tawjih examinations with 80 per cent grades and above this year, and we believe that all these can be accepted in various faculties since the total number to be accepted this year would be 7,341 according to the council's decision. Many of those with 80 per cent grades and above have not yet been accepted, and we hope that the universities will open the way for their enrolment as soon as possible. We hope that new directives will be issued by the government to help open the way for as many students as possible to continue their higher studies and serve their nations.

### Al Dustour: Crisis deepens

NO sooner have we heard the news about an imminent solution for the presidential crisis in Lebanon than we witnessed further complications standing in the way of the election of a new president to succeed Amin Gemayel. More serious are the reports coming out from Beirut that a renewal of factional fighting could be triggered at any moment. There is no doubt that a number of political leaders have been exerting serious efforts towards finding a solution acceptable to all parties; and indeed these efforts almost yielded fruitful results. But unfortunately these efforts backed by the Syrian government have faltered largely due to the intransigence on the part of a number of parties which aim to retain the present status quo and the present no-peace no-war in the civil strife. Had there been agreement on a candidate to run for the coming presidential election, no tension could have erupted in Beirut, and no way would have been opened for evil makers and those who fish in muddy water. It is regrettable to see that the presidential election becoming a real source of dispute and one that could revive old hostilities and trigger another round of civil war.



### Sawt Al Shaab: Brotherly solidarity

HIS Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent's endeavours to rally support and assistance for Bangladesh and Sudan which were devastated by floods are now assuming wider proportions. Prince Hassan was perhaps the first prominent Arab to call on Arab and Islamic countries to enlist assistance for these two Muslim nations from various countries and world organisations. Prince Hassan was the first leader to advocate a new international humanitarian order that would provide assistance directly to the stricken nations in the Third World. Through his efforts with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Prince Hassan has succeeded in providing assistance to the two countries, and through his constant messages to heads of world organisations Prince Hassan has been able to increase the world community's concern over flood victims in Bangladesh and Sudan. On the national level, the Prince succeeded in mobilising the Jordanian people's efforts and in dispatching relief supplies to Sudan in a clear manifestation of solidarity with Arab brothers.

## Soviet Mideast strategy under Gorbachev

By Lally Weymouth

BEYOND recent cliché-ridden statements on the Middle East by the two presidential candidates in which they pledged support for Israel but said little new about the problems of the region — lies an important development that the next president will have to address: Since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power — some say even before — the Soviets have changed their strategy for dealing with the Mideast. No longer tied exclusively to a handful of radical client states, the Soviets have been able to move beyond obstructionist tactics to become an active participant in regional affairs.

The new Soviet policy line — the "new thinking" as Soviets call it — could cause serious problems for the United States. The new approach includes:

— A more flexible attitude in dealing with Israel, with which the Soviets severed diplomatic relations in 1967.

— A more guarded attitude to Moscow's clients in the area, including a partial cutback in arms to Syria.

— An effort to broaden the Soviet camp to include moderate as well as radical Arab states, including establishing relations with the United Arab Emirates and Oman in 1985 and with Qatar this year.

— This year, Egypt's foreign minister became the first Egyptian official to visit Moscow in 15 years. King Hussein also paid a visit to Moscow last year and was promised Soviet arms.

These tactics, combined with the recent deterioration of the U.S. position in the Middle East, have given the Soviets a new and more powerful status in the area. Gone is the era of U.S. dominance, says former State Department official Harold Saunders. The Reagan administration, Saunders charges, has squandered its influence during the last seven years.

### Jayewardene stepping down

By Dalton de Silva  
Reuter

COLOMBO — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, who announced Friday he would not run for a third term, has survived four assassination attempts during his 50 years in politics.

"Attempts have been made on my life for times but they did not succeed," Jayewardene said, marking his 82nd birthday Saturday.

But he added: "The time should come for one to die."

The last attempt was in August last year when two grenades were lobbed at a meeting of the ruling United National Party (UNP) in parliament.

One of the grenades fell on the table at which Jayewardene was sitting and rolled off before exploding.

Two people were killed and five ministers were injured but Jayewardene, a devout Buddhist, escaped without a scratch.

He blamed a Marxist rebel group, the People's Liberation Front, for the attack.

The front, whose members come mainly from Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese community, has criticised Jayewardene for signing an agreement with India last year seeking to end a revolt by the Tamil minority.

The front has killed more than 400 people in its campaign against the accord, which it describes as a sell-out to India.

Jayewardene has invoked emergency powers to make sure public services keep running during a strike the front has called to mark his birthday.

Jayewardene led the UNP to victory in Sri Lanka's last general election in 1977 with an unprecedented majority of more than 80 per cent of the seats in parliament.

He immediately changed the British-style parliamentary system to an executive presidency, giving himself sweeping powers.

He dismantled import and foreign exchange controls and launched an open economic policy which won popular support.

In 1982 Jayewardene called a presidential election 16 months early and was re-elected with a 53 per cent majority.

He also held a referendum in the same year which extended parliament for a further six years.

Popularly referred to as "JR" or by his critics as "the old fox," Jayewardene has won a reputation as a shrewd politician.

"He got his parliamentarians to give him undated letters of resignation so that he could make use of them whenever he wants," said a UNP member who did not want to be identified.

But Western diplomat commented: "The failure to hold a general election in the past 11 years, continuing violence across the island and the skyrocketing cost of living has eroded some of Jayewardene's support."

The Soviets' modified strategy did not spring up overnight with the assassination of Gorbachev. By the early '80s, certain Soviet strategists — notably Yevgeniy M. Primakov, head of a Moscow think tank, and Karen N. Brutens, deputy chief of the International Department of the Central committee — advocated a new policy line for the Middle East. In 1982, Brutens wrote that the Soviets should concentrate not only on countries they found ideologically attractive, but also on relations with Kenya and Saudi Arabia and other governments (including Israel).

Many Soviet and U.S. officials point to the minimal Soviet participation in the Lebanon war of 1982 as one of the first signs of a change in Soviet policy. Although the Syrians asked for help when the Israelis, using U.S. equipment, destroyed Soviet missiles and tanks in the Bekaa Valley — a humiliating blow to Moscow — the Soviets did little. (A year later, however, the Soviets gave the Syrians the SAM 5 missile).

When Gorbachev came to power, he adopted the new policy line advocated by Primakov and Brutens and elevated the two, along with Brutens' assistant, Alexander Zotov and Polyakov to key positions. "For the first time, we've got some Soviets who are free to float alternative lines," said a U.S. official.

recognise Israel's right to exist within the 1967 borders even as they became the champions of the Arab cause against the West and Israel.

In the last few years, the Soviets have begun to rebuild bridges with Israel. For example, the so-called prisoners of Zion (Jewish activists who were sentenced to labour camps) have been released. Moreover, about 4,000 "refuseniks" — roughly one-fourth of the total but including the most famous — have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union. So far this year, Jewish emigration is running at an annual rate of more than 12,000 people, up sharply from the 914 who left in 1986.

Under Gorbachev, Soviet Jews have also been allowed to visit relatives in Israel, and their posi-

tive impressions have been recorded in the Soviet press. The Soviet culture boycott of Israel has also ended, and today Soviet dance and music groups visit Israel. The Soviet press, says Israeli Sovietologist Galia Golani, has changed its reporting on Israel from always negative to occasionally positive. "They called us Nazis," she says. "That has

state. Now, they say it will depend upon Israel's agreement to an international peace conference, a version of which is supported by Israel's Labour Party — but not the hard-line Likud Party. The Soviets want a role in such a conference equal to that of the United States.

Whatever the actual state of the Soviets are seeking stability, there is also contrary evidence of stepped-up deliveries to Syria in other categories of arms including T-72 tanks, SS-21 missiles and possibly SU-24 bombers.

Moreover, the Soviet general in charge of chemical warfare visited Damascus recently — his only such visit outside the borders of the Soviet Union.

The Soviets, says Martin Indyk, executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East policy, "still haven't decided whether helping make peace between the Arab states and Israel

process," says an Israeli expert.

Gorbachev also has toughened Moscow's terms for dealing with its radical client states — manipulating arms deliveries, bargaining hard on certain arms deliveries, bargaining hard on certain arms systems, and demanding new methods of payment in advance of delivery.

"They've reduced arms supplies to Syria and Libya over the last two years, no doubt about that," says a recently retired U.S. official who specialises in the Middle East. The Soviets did not give the Syrians the SS-23 missiles they wanted, according to this official. Indeed, the Soviets gave the Syrians MiG-21 fighters only after the Iraqis and Indians had received them and then in fewer numbers than expected. And when Syria's President Assad visited Moscow in April 1987, Gorbachev lectured him about ignoring civilian needs and told him that the Soviets no longer would support Assad's aim of achieving strategic parity with Israel.

In the search for a solution of the Middle East problem should be based on negotiations... and not on armed force."

Gorbachev also told Arafat that "Recognition of the state of Israel and account for its security interests... is a necessary element of the establishment of peace... in the region on the basis of principles of international law."

Gorbachev spoke of Israeli withdrawal "from territories occupied in 1967" — leaving out the words "all" or "the" in regard to territories and indicating perhaps some flexibility on the question of a settlement — Washington Post.



"Since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power the Soviets have changed their strategy for dealing with the Mideast. No longer tied exclusively to a handful of client states, the Soviets have been able to become an active participant in regional affairs."

## LETTERS

### With little thought

To the Editor:

I WAS most interested to read Hing-Lara Mango's article on the health hazards of dogs and cats. The message comes through loudly and clearly — cleanliness is the key word! Those keeping animals in their houses, on the whole do not suffer diseases as they usually keep the animals clean, (or should do), as well as themselves. In England I always had dogs and cats in the house and never suffered from any diseases. If a house-kept pet becomes ill, owners normally take it to a vet.

However, in Jordan there is another problem which is found in most countries, including the United Kingdom, that of stray dogs and feral cats, for whom rarely is anybody responsible. A small number are lucky to be taken in and homed, or even just fed. Those that are not, have to fend for themselves, but it must be realised that most animal problems are caused by humans, even if indirectly, often without their realising it.

In all these countries stray breed and keep on reproducing, because no-one thinks of making an attempt to keep the numbers down. The answers can be found in the "Manual on Stray Dog Control in Mediterranean Countries," MZCC/SDC/82/2/I, from the Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Centre, Athens, Greece, and "Feral Cats, Suggestions for Control," from the Universities Federation of Animal Welfare in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, England, of which I have copies.

What is needed here is a programme of neutering for cats as suggested in the latter named booklet, and not annihilation as a certain number of cats is needed to keep down vermin. Dogs need to be rounded up — the Manual gives the instructions for even the most difficult situations. MDC Components of Luton, Bedfordshire, England has a catalogue of the equipment required, some of which could be produced here very reasonably. Poisoning is not the answer. It is barbaric and very cruel. Animals should not be made to suffer for something which is not their fault. There are much kinder methods of destroying dogs and cats, which are also explained in the booklets, even for the wildest and most aggressive dogs.

All this costs money of course, but it has been carried out in other countries, most notably Tunisia and Greece, and can be done here with a little thought. Not only would it benefit the animals, but in the long run it is also of great benefit to humans. I would be very happy to give out the information and spread the word (See Book Review in this page).

Chris Larter,  
Amman.

## BOOK REVIEW

ture."

### Beasts of burden

It is laid down in Islamic principles that animals in the service of man should be used only when necessary and for the purpose for which they are meant, and that their comfort should not be neglected.

The Prophet once passed by a camel who was so emaciated that his belly had shrunk to his back. He said to the owner of the camel, "Fear God in these dumb animals and ride them only when they are fit to be ridden, free them from work while they are still in good health."

### Slaughter of animals

Islam provides instructions to ensure the humane slaughter of food animals, with as little pain to the animal as possible, as the

following holy quotations describe:

Imam Ali said: "Do not slaughter sheep in the presence of other sheep, or any animal in the presence of other animals."

The Prophet said to a man who was sharpening his knife in the presence of an animal: "Do you intend inflicting death to the animal twice — once by sharpening the knife within its sight, and once by cutting its throat?"

There are many holy Islamic quotations forbidding blood sports and the use of animals as targets, some of which are as follows:

"The Prophet condemned those people who take up anything alive as a mere sport."

"The Prophet said "Do not set up living creatures as a target."

"God's Messenger forbade inciting animals to fight each other."

There are numerous Islamic laws forbidding vivisection (Al-Muthla):

Ibn 'Umar reported the Prophet as having condemned those who mutilate any part of an animal's body while it is alive.

The book "Islamic Concern for Animals," by Al-Hafiz B.A. Masri has both an English and an Arabic text. It is available at a cost of £5 per copy from the Athene Trust, 3A Charles Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, England.

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## Tehran reaches out to end isolation despite opposition

By Ed Blanche  
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iran's leaders are rebuilding links with the rest of the world as the country moves slowly toward ending the war with Iraq.

But there is opposition from hardliners, who fear that ending Iran's self-imposed isolation as it struggles to rebuild after eight years of war will undermine the Islamic revolution.

Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati launched Iran's bridge-building campaign six months before Tehran accepted a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire July 18 after a string of disastrous battlefield defeats.

The Iranians fought the war virtually without allies.

Rafsanjani and his supporters realised that Iran's "no West, no East" strategy and the revolution's fanatical fundamentalism that eschewed foreign links with all but the most radical states was counter-productive.

He declared Aug. 21: "Our post-war foreign policy will be more open than our policy during the war... we must take this opportunity to explain our aims and talk with the people of the world."

Reining in Iran's unruly Lebanese surrogates, the fundamentalist Hezbollah (Party of God) and other Iranian-backed extremist factions is a key component of his strategy.

Rafsanjani underlined this in a recent Tehran Radio broadcast in which he stressed that Iran now "is not thinking of exporting our revolution through direct intervention or by force... the policy of force is not a successful policy."

Groups linked to Hezbollah, the spearhead of the Islamic revolution in Lebanon, are believed to hold most of the 17 foreigners still missing in Lebanon.

Rafsanjani, considered the most powerful figure in Iran after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has offered Britain to help free its nationals held in Lebanon, including Church of England envoy Terry Waite, in return for normalising relations.

The thaw in relations with Britain, frozen last year after

an Iranian diplomat was arrested for shoplifting and a British diplomat was kidnapped and beaten in Tehran, is significant.

The Iranians have ranked Britain second only to the United States as its main enemy in the West. A British envoy recently visited Tehran to pave the way for restoring diplomatic relations.

For West Germany, the links it maintained with Iran throughout the war already have paid off.

Three Germans kidnapped in Lebanon by Iranian-backed extremists have been freed following Tehran's intervention. The last French hostages were released in June.

Bringing Hezbollah's militants to heel will be no easy task. Diplomatic sources reported that Rafsanjani was bit-

terly angry when Lebanese militants hijacked a Kuwaiti airliner in April and demanded the release of 17 comrades jailed in Kuwait for bombings.

Although Islamic Jihad has warned that speculation about imminent release is "a mirage," Rafsanjani's moves have raised hopes that other captives will be freed.

### Lucrative chances

In recent weeks, there has been a non-stop series of visits to Tehran by government ministers and industrialists from a score of countries, including West Germany, China, Denmark, Sweden, Japan and South Korea.

Many were lured by the prospect of lucrative contracts for reconstruction projects on which some analysts estimate Iran will have to spend at least \$40 billion.

In recent months, Tehran has restored diplomatic relations with Canada and France and is improving ties with Australia, New Zealand and the Soviet bloc.

Khomeini himself hinted when he endorsed the ceasefire that there would be major changes in the post-war era.

"Once we leave this phase of the revolution behind us, I will have recommendations for the next phase... and the general

policy of the regime and the revolution, which I shall talk about at an opportune time," he said in a message to the nation.

Rafsanjani, who was involved in the secret arms-for-hostages deal with the United States in 1985-86, is seen by many in the West as the most pragmatic of the Tehran hierarchy who would like to reopen a dialogue with the United States at some point.

However, Prime Minister Hussein Mousavi, who leads the hardliners opposing Iran's open-door policy, declared Sept. 2 that speculation about a U.S.-Iranian rapprochement was "nothing but illusions."

He stressed: "Considering the United States' acts against Iran, the resumption of relations with Washington would be a betrayal of the ideal of the revolution and those who have made mistakes for it."

Rafsanjani and others have stressed that Iran's revolutionary ideals will not be compromised and that they are planning for self-sufficiency for Iran, not for foreign economic domination.

But Tehran's Jomhuri Islami daily, the radicals' mouthpiece, said in a recent political commentary: "We crushed the enemy, but did not stretch out our hands to beg from aliens.

"We should refuse to allow the enemies of Islam who failed to impose anything on us during the war to do it now in more subtle, cunning ways... the foreigners must be kept at bay."

Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, a hardliner linked to the Shi'ite fundamentalists in Lebanon, has branded Rafsanjani's policies "de-featist."

Philip Robbins, an Iran specialist with the London-based Royal Institute for International Affairs, said in a telephone interview that the debate over Rafsanjani's strategy "has exacerbated the conflict" between radicals and conservatives that has seethed for some time.

"There are deep divisions within the government and the leadership over which direction the revolution should go," he said. "The end of the war has brought this more to the surface and Iran appears to be facing a period of political turbulence in 1979."

## Iran says it lost 123,000 in war

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran said Sunday that it lost 123,226 men killed in the eight-year-old war with Iraq, the first time Tehran has announced any casualty figures.

Iranian Guidance and Culture Minister Mohammad Khatami said in an interview with Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, that another 60,711 men were listed as missing in action.

But he said Iran believed that many of those are prisoners of war (PoWs) in Iraq.

The death toll cited by Khatami was well below estimates of 300,000 Iranians killed that Western military analysts said were considered to be conservative.

Irani officials have reported that more than 800,000 Iranians were killed.

Khatami gave no figures for Iran's wounded. But Western analysts had estimated them earlier this year at 600,000-700,000.

U.S. and other Western analysts have estimated Iraqi losses at 120,000 killed and 300,000 wounded in the conflict, the longest conventional war this century.

Iran held a 3-1 manpower edge over its foe, but for much of the war the Iraqis fought from heavily fortified defense lines that helped minimize their casualties.

Khatami, who is also a deputy commander at military headquarters, said the Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps suffered the worst casualties, 79,644 killed.

The Guards, known as Pasdaran, bore the brunt of the fighting and repeatedly launched human-wave offensives against Iraq's formidable defenses in which they were gunned down in their thousands.

Khatami said the regular army lost 35,170 men killed.

The officer corps of the army,

built up by the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was crippled by revolutionary purges after the monarch was toppled by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution in 1979.

## U.S.-Syrian deal sparks Lebanese political storm

By Diana Abdallah  
Reuters

BEIRUT — Fresh controversy over the presidential succession raged in Lebanon Monday, sparked by a U.S.-Syrian accord to support a pro-Syrian candidate.

Christian leaders opposed to Syria's powerful influence in Lebanon blasted the United States, which they have long regarded as their "protector."

Some accused envoy Richard Murphy of indirect threats during talks Sunday when he brought word of the deal to back Parliamentary Deputy Mikhael Daher to succeed President Amin Gemayel.

A senior Christian government official quoted Murphy as telling Christian leaders: "If you don't support the election of Daher then we will leave you to deal with the Syrians alone. We will consider this position directed against us."

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built up by the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was crippled by revolutionary purges after the monarch was toppled by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution in 1979.

Opposition parties have tried to turn the plebiscite into a vote of confidence in his leadership.

"The main objective of the referendum is to show the world that Turkey is a stable country dedicated to democracy," Ozal said.

Erdal Inonu, leader of the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party, described the announcement as a vote-catching exercise.

Opinion polls showed about 27 per cent of the vote would be in favour of Ozal's proposed move with about 65 per cent against.

In April last year he submitted Turkey's application for membership of the European Economic Community.

giving his centre-right Motherland Party 291 seats in the 450-seat parliament.

Opposition parties have blamed Ozal's free-market economic policies for Turkey's inflation rate, which reached 78.4 per cent in August compared with 38 per cent a year ago.

Ozal was first elected in 1983, three years after the army seized power to try to end chronic political party squabbling, corruption and violence.

In April last year he submitted

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told reporters: "We are afraid that what happened will become a new and dangerous reason for new civil strife."

The Christian sources said Gemayel, himself opposed to Daher, was now determined to set up a Christian-led transitional government which would also assume presidential duties until rival factions agreed on a compromise candidate.

This has raised fears of effective partition with rival factions backing separate governments.

One political source said: "If a president is not elected then Lebanon faces partition because the Muslim will only acknowledge the present cabinet headed by Hoss to confront the one formed by Gemayel."

Lebanon's top Christian clerics also met Monday and issued a statement saying deputies should not be pressured to vote in any particular way.

The independent Al Nahar newspaper quoted Daher as saying: "If the decision has been

closed at 407.50 to the dollar compared with the previous close of 390.00, the central bank said.

Security sources said Aoun ordered army engineers to clear the area around the old parliament house to allow the deputies to reach the premises Thursday.

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## Ozal may quit unless referendum backs him



CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

### Aziz: Zionist lobby damages U.S.-Iraqi ties

(Continued from page 1)

"The Zionists will not benefit from their anger and instigations against Iraq."

Iran Kurds vow continued battle

Iran's Kurds are determined to pursue their battle for autonomy even if Tehran and Baghdad reach a lasting peace agreement, a Kurdish guerrilla leader said Monday.

"We have always supported peace between Iran and Iraq, but we will continue to fight the Tehran regime until it recognises the rights of our Kurdish people," said Saeed Badal, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) in Iran.

Asked if the DPK had carried out any cross-border raids since the Iran-Iraq ceasefire took effect, Badal said: "Our fighters launch their attacks on the Khomeini guards and army forces inside Kurdistan and not from Iraqi territory."

"We will fight for autonomy for Iran's Kurdistan even if Tehran and Baghdad sign a long-lasting peace treaty following the end of their war."

He was speaking to reporters at DPK politburo headquarters at Qandil Heights, about six

steps on the path of peace will continue, with Allah's help, however the Iranians might procrastinate," he told a group of Arab women at an audience.

"We will go on the peace path because people will never be affected by charlatanism when they realise the truth... the Iranian people have realised the truth through the Arabs and the Iraqis realised it earlier."

Foreign ministers of the two countries are due to resume their negotiations in New York in the first week of October and then meet again later in Geneva. Hussein referred indirectly to the allegations that his government used chemical weapons against Kurdish rebels saying:

giving his centre-right Motherland Party 291 seats in the 450-seat parliament.

Opposition parties have blamed Ozal's free-market economic policies for Turkey's inflation rate, which reached 78.4 per cent in August compared with 38 per cent a year ago.

Ozal was first elected in 1983, three years after the army seized power to try to end chronic political party squabbling, corruption and violence.

In April last year he submitted Turkey's application for membership of the European Economic Community.

Neeman said Israel would decide in due course whether to launch military reconnaissance satellites.

Neeman, a nuclear physicist who is also head of the far-right Tchiya Party, said the Israeli satellite would reach a maximum height of 1,000 kilometres and would come closest to earth at 250 kilometres.

Army radio quoted foreign sources as saying Israel would be in a position to launch an observation satellite within one to three years after a further experimental stage.

When a U.S. navy analyst, Jonathan Pollard, was convicted of spying for Israel in 1986, it emerged from court papers that many of the secrets he betrayed came from satellite intelligence which Washington was not passing on to its Middle East ally.

Ambassador Clovis Maksoud of the Arab League told Reuters the satellite launch illustrated Israel's ability to build long-range nuclear missiles and "represents a serious threat to the Arab World."

"The U.S. strategic commitment to Israel to maintain military superiority in the region is well known," he said.

Karabakh clash  
(Continued from page 1)

since 32 people died and 200 were injured in late February in anti-Armenian riots in the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait.

Nagorno-Karabakh's ethnic Armenian majority has been

pressing the Kremlin from the

small region from the jurisdiction

of the republic of Azerbaijan to neighbouring Armenia.

Kremlin representative, was operating in the region. It was not clear whether this meant Moscow had assumed control of the region. Volsky was sent to Nagorno-Karabakh in July.

The violence Sunday was the

worst over Nagorno-Karabakh

and the worst over Nagorno-Karabakh

## Libyans take advantage of loosened trade, travel barriers

TRIPOLI (AP) — Libya has loosened its trade and travel restrictions, and entrepreneurs are losing no time taking advantage of the situation.

In a speech Sept. 1, the 19th anniversary of a coup that ushered Muammar Qadhafi to power, the anti-capitalist colonel said Libyans could become "bourgeois" as long as they didn't exploit others to gain wealth.

Days earlier, he acknowledged that black markets were "what the people want" and that was fine with him.

Eager to maintain one of Africa's highest standards of living, with per capita income estimated at about \$6,000 per capita, private business is using the new climate to the fullest.

At a Tripoli bus depot, entrepreneurs assemble in groups of five and six to hire taxis for the 150-kilometre run to Tunisia to obtain such goods as Japanese TVs, designer Polo shirts and brand-name furniture and watches unavailable in Libya.

Often, they carry to the border

whatever they can buy at subsidized prices in state-run Libyan supermarkets, even 20-kilogramme sacks of macaroni, which they sell to Tunisians for a profit.

Meanwhile, Tunisians stream into Libya with cars loaded up with foreign-made cigarettes, appliances and clothing. At Tripoli's traditional outdoor market, they elbow for space to hawk their wares in streets nearly empty of shoppers about a year ago.

After dramatic drops in crude oil prices in mid-decade, Libya had decided to concentrate its shrinking income on the oil industry and the military. It stuck foreign companies with hundreds of millions of dollars in unpaid bills and stopped virtually all imports of consumer goods.

Shoppers waited on breadlines and scoured shelves in vain for eggs and cheese. Soap powder, toilet paper and toothpaste were rare commodities, even on the

black market.

Newspapers carried letters from unhappy Libyans. Consumers complained at meetings of the local governing bodies.

Also making life difficult was Qadhafi's 1985 order expelling tens of thousands of foreign workers. Under the nation's revolutionary system, Libyans are forbidden to work for other Libyans, except for relatives or in profit-sharing jobs in industry. Suddenly farms had no Tunisian workers and hotels, no Moroccan waiters.

Foreign businessmen and diplomats, who offered observations on condition of anonymity, said Qadhafi became worried about his popularity, especially after the U.S. bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi in April 1986 to retaliate for his alleged support of terrorism.

Last October, the border between Tunisia and Libya was reopened, allowing workers to return. A few months later, Qadhafi liberalized trade between the two countries in the quest for greater North African unity.

Then in March, Libyan authorities quietly allowed small businesses to import some goods for sale. Until then, what imports were permitted arrived through giant state companies. Qadhafi once criticized these firms as corrupt, saying their workers often pilfered the goods.

There were other changes, too. "Before, we had to sell everything to the government and wait sometimes 20 days or a month for payment," said a clothmaker in his Tripoli shop. "Now everyone comes to the market to buy. At 11 a.m., it's so crowded you can't even move."

Down the block, a man cooks omelettes at an outdoor table and stuffs them into rolls for hungry shoppers. Two elderly women shrouded in white spread a mat on the ground and sell cologne and imported hand lotion. At a table where Arabic music blares from a speaker, Madonna and Simon tapes also are for sale.

Some items are still in short supply. Chicken seem to be everywhere, but veal and beef are hard to find.

## Syrian team, JCO director hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting team representing the Syrian Farmers Union met here Monday with Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Director-General Mrweid Al Tal to discuss scopes of cooperation between the two organisations in promoting animal husbandry and the extensive use of farm machinery in crop production.

The head of the Syrian team, Rafiq Darwish, briefed Tal on the agricultural development process in Syria and heard an outline on JCO's programmes and activities

in the Kingdom.

The two sides exchanged views on subjects to be discussed by the pan-Arab farmers union meeting which is due to be held in Tripoli, Libya.

The coming meeting is expected to discuss means for promoting cooperation among farmers in various Arab countries, and inter-Arab cooperation in processing agricultural products.

After the meeting, the Syrian team was accompanied on tours of JCO's projects in Madaba and Ma'in, south of Amman.

## ACC loans decline

AMMAN (J.T.) — Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) Director-General Sami Sunnah has announced that statistics showed a decline in the total volume of loans granted by the corporation from JD 5.7 million in 1986 to JD 5.1 million in 1987.

The loans financed 1,913 projects, benefiting 2,680 farmers, with a total of JD 10.8 million in the first two years of the five-year development plan. The figure represents 57 per cent of the projected loans for that period, Sunnah said.

The decline in the size of loans extended is attributed to a decline in demand for credits, particularly in the area of irrigated agriculture, due to difficulties that are facing the marketing operation and exports of vegetables.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

	Monday rates			
	Local self/buy rates in fils			
Belgian franc (for 10)	95.40	96.40	Saudi riyal ..... 104.80/ 105.80	
Dutch guilder ..... 176.80	178.70	Syrian lira (for JD 1) ..... 95.00/ 96.00	Lebanese lira (for JD 1) ..... 90.00/ 92.00	
French franc ..... 61.10	62.10	Iraqi dinar ..... 291.20	Yemeni dinar ..... 137.00/ 137.80	
Italian lira (for 100)	24.40	25.40	Iraqi dinar ..... 157.00/ 170.00	Egyptian pound (new) ..... 163.70/ 170.00
Japanese yen (for 100)	27.40	28.40	Swiss franc ..... 246.30/ 252.50	Qatari riyal ..... 107.80/ 108.60
Swedish krona ..... 59.80	61.00	U.K. sterling pound ..... 669.70/ 669.50	UAE dirham ..... 106.90/ 107.60	
U.S. dollar ..... 393.50	395.50	U.S. dollar ..... 1015.50/ 1022.00	Qatari riyal ..... 104.00/ 104.50	
Deutschmark ..... 209.70	213.00	Bahraini dinar ..... 104.00/ 104.50		

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

	LONDON EXCHANGE RATES		
One Sterling	1.6765/75	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.8690/8700	Deutschmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.8690/8700	2.1100/10	Swiss francs
		1.5805/15	Belgian francs
		39.21/24	French francs
		1392/1393	Italian lire
		133.80/90	Japanese yen
		6.4225/75	Swedish crowns
		6.8990/9040	Norwegian crowns
		7.1740/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	408.80/409.30	U.S. dollars	

### JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres
Ministry of Supply	602121	Corporation ..... 603507
Ministry of Finance	636321	Free Zones Corporation ..... 642001
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Financial Market ..... 660170
Ministry of Labour	663185	Amman Chamber of Commerce ..... 666151
Ministry of Communications	671071	Amman Chamber of Industry ..... 644747
Ministry of Agriculture	633291	Association of Banks in Jordan ..... 662258
Internal Tax Department	660151	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies ..... 647370
Central Bank of Jordan	630301	General Statistics Department ..... 846171
Amman Customs Department	772181	Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation ..... 721194
Social Security Corporation	643000	Jordanian Businessmen Association ..... 680663

### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for September 19, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	286349	JD 369293	498
Top three companies:			
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	59866	JD 77826	98
Jordan Spinning and Weaving	60450	JD 54847	93
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	14150	JD 33633	57
Parallel market:	929	JD 324	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed weaker as the leading gold and mining stocks slumped in line with weaker gold bullion prices. The All Ordinaries index closed 19.7 points, or 1.2 per cent, down at 1,540.2.

TOKYO — Shares closed slightly higher after gradually sliding from initial highs and one broker forecast a continued slow climb until October when more energy would return to the market. The Nikkei index closed up 34.62 points at 27,901.00.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed easier with turnover down to a two-year low and one broker foreseeing bearish sentiment remaining for the week. The Hang Seng index closed 11.24 down at 2,447.58.

SINGAPORE — Prices fluctuated narrowly in thin trading due to an absence of fresh incentives. The Straits Times Industrial index was down 2.41 at 1,062.52.

BOMBAY — Prices rose on a broad front on speculative and institutional buying.

FRANKFURT — Lively buying interest from foreign investors continued to push up prices and the real-time Dax 30-share index hit a 1988 high of 1,253.81, a 1.4 per cent rise, before slipping just over a point at the close.

ZURICH — Prices closed higher across the board but operators remained cautious and institutional investors kept to the sidelines. The All Share Swiss index rose 7.8 to 895.8.

PARIS — Prices were firm but trade was quiet with both domestic and foreign investors sidelined after strong rises last week. The 50-share bourse indicator was up by 0.16 per cent.

LONDON — Prices were mixed in quiet trade with investors awaiting Tuesday's release of British economic data. At 1439 GMT the FTSE-100 index was up 1.2 at 1,767.9.

NEW YORK — Many investors took to the sidelines in the absence of any clear leadership trends and the market allowed in quiet trade. The Dow was down 18 at 2,080.

**IN GRATITUDE**  
The citizens of Beit Fajjar in occupied Palestine express their appreciation and gratitude to the Society for the Care of Neurological Patients and the director of the society's office

**Nadia Al Alami**  
for the great help and humanitarian assistance offered by them during the treatment of our son Mohammad Ali Yousef Al Taqatqas. May God bless their work.

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Furnished or Unfurnished  
In Shmeisani, Sweifieh, Abdoun and many other locations.  
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**INQUIRY NO. 101/88 FOR HEAT SEALING VACUUM MACHINE**  
We, Jordan Dairy Company (P.O. Box 6474 Amman) are requiring an offer for new heat sealing vacuum machine in accordance to the following:-

- 1) Specification: One heat sealing vacuum machine with one chamber of ABT. 800 x 800 mm or with two chambers, stainless steel, with pump and accessories and parts needed, dimension of pouch (PE-nylon) 140 x 180 mm capacity of machine 500 - 700 pouch per/h, of 5-7 bag in one time.
- 2) Price: (C + F) Amman or Aqaba
- 3) Delivery: Within one month of date of confirmation.
- 4) Closing date: 30.09.1988.

Hope that companies are interested to send their offers to our address mentioned above.

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Please call only on Sunday and Monday from 12 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tel. 665630

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Siemens telex machine model 1000 — JD 350.  
Excellent condition.  
Telephone 661987 8.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.

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Location: Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle, best area in Amman. Big garden, central heating, telephone, one bedroom, large living area, modern bathroom & kitchen.  
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Location: 4th Circle, two bedrooms, central heating, telephone, very modern facilities.  
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Two deluxe first floor apartments (190 m<sup>2</sup>) each, unfurnished, consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, (L) shaped salon, two verandas and a big modern kitchen with telephone, separate central heating and solar system.  
The annual rent is JD 2,500.00 subject to negotiation.  
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**CONCORD**  
Cinema  
SPRING FEVER

**RAINBOW**  
Cinema  
NAKED VENGEANCE

Performances 1,15, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 30, 10, 20

**NIJOUN**  
Cinema  
BEVERLY HILLS COP II

Performances 1, 20, 6, 15, 8, 10, 10, 20

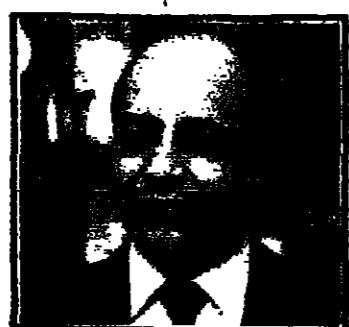
**PLAZA**  
Cinema  
CRITICAL CONDITION

Performances 3, 10, 6, 11, 8, 10, 10, 20

## Sports

## Mafraq to get soccer stadium soon

MAFRAQ (J.T.) — Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat paid a visit to Mafraq on Monday and inspected sports facilities which are being established with support and assistance from the Ministry of Youth.



Awad Khleifat

Abdullah, who accompanied the minister on the tour, briefed him on the activities of youth centres in Mafraq, Zatari, Rahab and Manshieh.

The ministry is helping the Mafraq Governorate to set up a soccer stadium which is expected to cost JD 90,000, according to

## Jordan, Iraqi chess teams meet

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian and Iraqi National Chess Teams will hold a friendly competition Tuesday afternoon at the Royal Chess Club in Amman under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, Personal Representative of His Majesty King Hussein.

The match will help prepare the two national teams for the International Chess Olympiad due to be held in Greece between Oct. 10-30.

## Real Madrid remains favourite

MADRID (R) — Real Madrid will win the Spanish first division soccer championship despite their faltering start to the season, according to rival manager John Toshack.

"I'm certain they are the best side in Spain, although they're going to have to sweat more than last season if they want to win the title," said Real Sociedad's coach Toshack after Sunday's 2-2 draw in the Bernabeu stadium. It was Real's third draw in succession and notable for an own goal and a fluffed penalty by striker Hugo Sanchez.

Real coach Leo Beenhakker

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

## WHAT'S YOUR LINE?

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ A 8 6  
♦ A Q J 9 2  
♦ Q 9  
♦ J 6 4

**WEST**  
9 7 4 3  
K 10 4  
A 10 5  
♦ 10 3 2

**EAST**  
K 8 7 6  
A 8 7 4 3  
♦ 8

**SOUTH**  
♦ Q 5  
5 3  
K 6 2  
♦ A K Q 9 7 5

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass  
5 ♦ Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Four ♦  
Assume you are playing in a major national championship and West leads the four of spades against your contract of five clubs. How would you play, and would you adopt the same line if your contract was six clubs?

Sitting South was one of the world's great cardplayers, Zin Mahmood of Pakistan. His rebid of three clubs is rather aggressive by the standards of this department.

However, his bidding panache is well known to friends and foes alike, so his partner never even bothered to investigate slam possibilities.

At five clubs, the hand was a pinhole, and took exactly 10 seconds to play. Zia ducked the opening lead, East won and continued with a spade to the queen. When both defenders followed to one round of trumps, Zia switched to a low diamond to the queen, then sluffed a heart on the ace of spades. He conceded a diamond trick and announced that he was ruffing a diamond high for his contract.

At six clubs, however, declarer could not afford to, in effect, go down at trick one by ducking the spade. A second spade trick would not be essential to the contract, but the heart finesse would be. Correct technique would be to rise with the ace of spades, come to hand with a high trump to assure a break no worse than 3-1, then take the heart finesse. When that succeeded, declarer would return to hand with another high trump to repeat the heart finesse. A heart ruffed high would guard against a 4-2 split in that suit, and a trump to the jack would draw the last trump and provide the entry to cash two hearts for a spade and a diamond discard.

"We had the game in hand," he said, referring to Ajax's 2-0 lead against Roda at halftime. "But things went wrong in the second half due to lack of concentration in defense. The organization isn't going right yet. I'm not a magician who can undo the damage of five games," he said.

Defending champions and European Cup holders PSV Eindhoven maintained their improved early-season form when they won 3-1 at Lowly Willem to take over at the top of the division.

Wins for Marseille and Nice moved them up the French first division Saturday, but they remained out of touch with the leaders.

Marseille advanced from fourth to third with a 2-1 win over Cannes and Nice improved three places to fourth with a hat-trick from Daniel Bravo, who becomes

## American

## College Football

How they fared this week: No. 1 Miami (2-0-0) beat No. 15 Michigan (0-2-0) 31-30; No. 2 UCLA (3-0-0) beat Long Beach State 56-3; No. 3 Clemson (2-1-0) lost to No. 10 Florida State (2-1-0) 24-21; No. 4 Oklahoma (2-0-0) beat Arizona 22-10; No. 6 Auburn (2-0-0) beat Kansas 56-7; No. 7 Georgia (3-0-0) beat Mississippi State 42-35; No. 8 Notre Dame (2-0-0) beat Michigan State 20-3; No. 9 Louisiana State (2-0-0) beat Tennessee 34-9; No. 12 West Virginia (3-0-0) beat Maryland 55-24; No. 13 Alabama (1-0-0) at Texas A & M, ppd.; Hurricane; No. 14 South Carolina (3-0-0) beat East Carolina 17-0; No. 16 Penn State (2-0-0) beat Boston College 23-20; No. 17 Washington (2-0-0) beat Army 31-17; No. 18 Ohio State (1-1-0) lost to Pittsburgh 42-10; No. 19 Iowa (1-2-0) lost to Colorado 21-24; No. 5 Southern California (2-0-0), No. 11 Nebraska (2-1-0) and No. 20 Oklahoma State (1-0-0) did not play.

## Gold medal hopefuls upset on third day of Seoul Olympics

SEOUL (Agencies) — Australian Duncan Armstrong put a year of illness and failure behind him to upset two of the world's best swimmers with a shock victory in the first showdown event of the Seoul Olympics on Monday.

Armstrong, 20, a double gold medallist at the 1986 Commonwealth Games, choked back tears of emotion on the winners' rostrum after coming from behind in the 200 metres men's freestyle to edge out Swede Anders Holmert in world record time.

The 22-year-old Kristin Otto of East Germany, who won four gold and two silver medals at the 1986 World Championships, captured the women's 100 metre freestyle in a split-second Olympic victory in the men's 100-metre breaststroke final.

Barbara Krause in 1980.

Yong Zhuang of China, whose

best time in 1986 was 59.60, won the silver in 55.47. Catherine Pienkowski of France captured the bronze in 55.49.

British ace Adrian Moorhouse, who had been disqualified for a illegal turn in the World Championships, lived up to his top

world ranking Monday with a

split-second Olympic victory in

the men's 100-metre breaststroke final.

After perfect performances in

the floor exercise and uneven

parallel bars, Silivas finished the

women's compulsories with

39.75. Dobre wound up fifth

overall after a poor showing in

her vault.

Moorhouse's time of one minute,

2.04 seconds was just .01

ahead of Karoly Guttler of Hun-

gary.

Dmitri Volkov of the Soviet

Union won the bronze in 1:02.49.

Janet Evans, world record holder

in the 400- and 800-metre

freestyle, broke her own American

record to win the women's 400-metre individual medley in 4

minutes, 37.76 seconds.

Noemi Lung of Romania won

the silver medal in 4:39.46, while

Daniela Hunger of East Germany

taking the bronze at 4:39.76.

## Cockerill's face

Arsenal's new cap Paul Davis is

facing a trial by television after being exposed as the culprit in an off-the-ball incident at Highbury Saturday which left Southampton's Glenn Cockerill with a broken jaw.

TV cameras caught the normally placid Davis flooring Cockerill with a punch out of sight of the referee and his linesmen during the 2-2 draw which ended Southampton's 100 per cent record and left Norwich top of the English first division.

## Eleventh place

In the Netherlands, Ajax's con-

tinuing poor form continued to

dominate the headlines after a 3-3

home draw against Roda.

"Ajax stays sick" read the

headline in the mass circulation

Algemeen Dagblad newspaper.

Commentators note the team is

losing spectators, with only about

half the number of tickets sold to

their home matches this season

compared with last year.

Ajax manager Kurt Linder

admitted the team, in 11th place,

had little chance of reaching a

leading position this season and

suffered from poor organisation

on the field.

"We had the game in hand,"

he said, referring to Ajax's 2-0

lead against Roda at halftime.

"But things went wrong in the

second half due to lack of concen-

tration in defense. The organiza-

tion isn't going right yet. I'm not

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Marseille advanced from

fourth to third with a 2-1 win over

Cannes and Nice improved three

places to fourth with a hat-trick

from Daniel Bravo, who becomes

## Gymnasts

The gymnastics arena belonged

Monday to 18-year-old Silivas —

all 1.35 metres and 28 kilos of her

as she bounded, twirled and

sprang to two perfect scores,

sending her in pursuit of country-

woman Nadia Comaneci's world-

record seven 10s at Montreal in

1976.

Silivas stole the show from

teammate Aurelia Dobre, the

1987 world champion who is re-

covering from knee surgery.

After perfect performances in

the floor exercise and uneven

parallel bars, Silivas finished the

women's compulsories with

39.75. Dobre wound up fifth

overall after a poor showing in

her vault.

Eastern European marksmen

dominated the shooting competition,

winning four of the six

medals awarded.

Miroslav Varga, a 28-year-old

Czechoslovak army instructor re-

lationship unknown in international

competition, won gold in the men's small-bore rifle prone (Eng-

lish match), scoring 703.9

points. His perfect 600 scored

earlier in the qualifying round set

a new Olympic record.

South Korea's Cha Young-

Chul won the silver medal with

702.8 and Artila Zahonyi of Hun-

gary garnered the bronze with

701.9 points.

## Burmese troops open fire; scores die

RANGOON (Agencies) — Heavily-armed Burmese troops fired at crowds of demonstrators Monday to crush popular resistance to a military coup, killing and wounding scores of people, residents said.

One Western diplomat estimated the death toll at about 400, many of them students, but this could not be confirmed.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said many of the dead and wounded were shot without warning near the Rangoon General Hospital, the 2,000-year-old Buddhist shrine Sule Pagoda and the city hall.

"Many students are being mowed down. Can't anything be done?" sobbed a reporter telephoning the AP from the scene.

A peaceful procession of about 1,000 demonstrators was moving around a corner near the U.S. embassy when troops opened fire. The demonstrators scattered while soldiers fired on a smaller group that had rallied in front of

the embassy, a diplomat quoted by the AP said.

Soldiers on rooftops were firing down on demonstrators in front of the embassy, but the embassy had not been hit, according to a Western diplomat reached by telephone from Tokyo. One dead person and three wounded could be seen in front of the building, the diplomat said.

Student posters appeared in several parts of the city asking the people to conserve energy and await instructions. The posters said action would be taken against soldiers.

Earlier, some students were seen making petrol bombs and stockpiling stones and sharpened bicycle spokes that are fired from catapults or slingshots.

Diplomats said there were reports that troops disarmed police in some districts of the city and shut down all newspaper offices. There were also reports of shooting in Mandalay but this could not be confirmed because of poor communications with Burma's second city in the north.

"It looks very, very bad," one of the diplomats said.

Earlier in the day the bodies of the dead and wounded lay stretched out on the streets. They could not immediately be evacuated because of intense firing.

Shortly after Saw Maung announced the military takeover "in the interests of the people," demonstrators demanding an end to one-party rule surged into the streets to denounce the move and clashes were reported in various areas.

There were unconfirmed reports that 40 civilians and 17 soldiers were killed in the northeast of the city in hand-to-hand

combat.

In an apparent move to cool political passions, Burma's new military rulers announced Monday the abrogation of laws safeguarding the existence of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), Burma's sole legal party over the past 25 years.

"We do not wish to see the blood of innocent high school children spilled," they said.

dents to impede movement of troops trying to restore control.

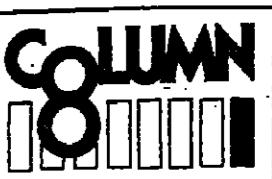
Opposition leaders General Tin Oo and Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of independence hero Aung San, called in a joint statement for an end to the violence.

"We do not wish to see the blood of innocent high school children spilled," they said.

The abrogated laws legalised the BSPP monopoly on power in the name of Buddhism, isolationism and militarism and as practised turned naturally rich Burma into one of the world's 10 poorest countries and a police state.

Once the world's top rice exporter, Burma was last year granted least developed country status by the United Nations and was forced to begin petroleum imports because of mismanagement of its oil reserves.

A diplomat said the mood of the people was grim.



### Amphibian revived after 90 years

MOSCOW (AP) — Gold prospectors in an isolated region of Siberia thawed and revived a frozen amphibious animal from a 90-year "sleep" after finding it in a shaft they sunk in the permafrost, a Soviet newspaper reported Sunday. Scientists said the animal, one of a class of amphibians with tails known scientifically as "Hynobiidae," was able to survive so long in a frozen state because of its liver, said Lenin-koje Znamya, a daily newspaper printed for the Moscow region. The amphibian's liver, which totals a third of its weight, secretes glycerine that "acting like a special kind of antifreeze," and prevents the animal from dying in very low temperatures, the paper said.

### Second annual rat olympics

KALAMAZOO (AP) — She stepped out onto the high bar with a look of determination, quivering while she tried to steady herself. The crowd gasped when she lost her footing, then broke into cheers when she twirled her tail around the bar, saving herself from a 38-centimetre drop. Welcome to the second annual rat olympics, a lesson in patience, sensitivity and positive reinforcement. Since June, about 50 psychology students at Kalamazoo college have been training 11 white rats to inch their way across the 61-centimetre-long, 0.6-centimetre-wide wooden bar, jump hurdles and climb a 1.5-metre vertical screen.

### Popular drink tastes like mud

POHNPEI (R) — Even connoisseurs agree that sakau has the consistency of phlegm and the taste of mud pies. But its narcotic qualities have made it the drink of choice on the island of Pohnpei in the northern Pacific, 3,500 kilometres southeast of Tokyo. Locals say young people on the island are increasingly turning to sakau in place of beer, and they say they welcome the change — claiming some drinks can make people aggressive while sakau makes them numb and sends them to sleep. Many doctors on the island now also prescribe sakau as a cure for hypertension and high blood pressure.

The pontiff began his trip to Zimbabwe. He also went to Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho and made a brief, unscheduled stop in South Africa when his plane was diverted in bad weather.

Surprise encounter... Pope John Paul with South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha during the pontiff's unscheduled landing in South Africa last week because of what was described as adverse weather conditions and technical problems with the papal aircraft.

### Pope under fire over stance on apartheid

MAPUTO (AP) — Pope John Paul II ends a 10-day African trip Monday after calling for peace in Mozambique and drawing criticism from South African anti-apartheid church leaders.

Officials of Mozambique's Marxist government, who previously have denounced local Roman Catholic bishops for urging negotiations with guerrillas, said the Pope's visit would improve church-state relations.

But activist clergymen from South Africa, who came to see the Pope Sunday, said John Paul should have spoken out more forcefully against apartheid during his tour of the region.

The Pope "had given the South African government more comfort than it deserved," said the Reverend Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. He spoke at a news conference after he and other Protestant clergy from South Africa attended a papal mass and joined Mozambican church leaders at a meeting with John Paul.

The pontiff began his trip to Zimbabwe. He also went to Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho and made a brief, unscheduled stop in South Africa when his plane was diverted in bad weather.

Boesak said the three-hour papal stop in Johannesburg was a propaganda coup for South African authorities, who had complained about the omission of their country from the official itinerary.

### Sweden's ruling party retains power

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The Social Democratic Party, presiding over a prospering economy, fought off a challenge from the environmentalist Greens and retained its hold on a minority government in parliamentary elections.

Nearly complete returns Monday gave the Greens a place in the 349-member Riksdag for the first time, but the party failed to gain enough seats to be a legislative power broker.

Pre-election predictions said the Greens, officially called the Environment Party, would hold the balance of power between the left and the centre-right blocs, giving the novice politicians unusual leverage.

The Greens, which became the first outside party to enter parliament in 70 years, drew most of their support from the three non-socialist opposition parties, which suffered their worst combined defeat since World War II.

"We have ridden out the storm and stood steady in the wind, and we have won," a smiling Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson said of Sunday's balloting.

### U.N. assembly convenes amid upbeat atmosphere

By Victoria Graham  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The 43rd General Assembly convenes Tuesday in an upbeat mood of improved East-West ties, U.N. successes in Afghanistan and the Gulf and a cooling of the conflict between the world body and the U.S. government.

The three-month session of 159 nations promises to be one of the busiest ever. The agenda includes almost 150 items, and the annual series of speeches by national leaders begins Sept. 26. Meanwhile, the secretary-general continues his efforts to make peace in the Gulf, southern Africa, the Western Sahara and elsewhere.

Days before the opening, a behind-the-scenes tug-of-war was under way over the largely ceremonial post of president, with Argentina and Britain, opponents in the Falklands-Malvinas war, again pitted against each other.

Britain is backing Barbados' U.N. Ambassador Dame Ruth Nita Barrow against Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo. Both are considered distinguished diplomats, well-qualified for the post, and the race appeared close.

The post, held by Peter Florin of East Germany for the past year, is significant because the president controls the agenda, the order of speakers and the length of speeches. The president also meets informally with members to help resolve issues and set the tone for debates.

The election of president will be conducted Tuesday afternoon by secret ballot. A simple majority is required.

The General Assembly will take up perennial issues: The Middle East conflict, apartheid, disarmament, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, Kampuchea, Central America and human rights around the world. But the shape of the Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq and Kampuchean resolutions is expected to change because of peace efforts and dialogue under way.

#### The Middle East

Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), is reported likely to attend sometime after the three-week general debate and has expressed willingness to meet with Israelis to discuss the Palestinian crisis.

Western diplomats have speculated that because of the changing Middle East situation the time might be right to repeat a 1975 resolution which equated Zionism with racism — a resolution which offended the United States and Israel and raised questions about fairness at the United Nations.

#### Improved superpower ties

The assembly will open this year amid improved relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. U.S.-Soviet summits and a nuclear arms treaty auger well for improved superpower cooperation and adoption of resolutions by consensus, instead of divisive votes.

Diplomats said the Soviet Union, which has been promoting the importance of the United Nations and paying its dues, again will play a

dominant role. Soviet diplomats pointedly have contrasted what they call the Soviet Union's more constructive role with what they describe as U.S. intransigence over withholding dues and off-voting in isolation, or with Israel and South Africa.

But last week, the United States announced it would pay \$188 million in back dues by the end of November and make arrangements to pay \$520 million in arrears to the United Nations and its agencies.

Almost since U.S. President Ronald Reagan took office, his administration has been at odds with the world body, criticising it for vitriolic anti-U.S. rhetoric, overstatement, wasteful spending and a bloated bureaucracy.

The administration and Congress have been withholding legal U.N. payments in an effort to spur reforms, and last week the administration conceded reforms were satisfactorily under way.

U.S. relations with the world body also have improved because the administration has decided not to push for closure of the PLO's U.N. observer mission under an anti-terrorist law which violates the U.S.-U.N. headquarters agreement.

The U.N. record in conflict resolution in the past year also has smoothed the way for a more constructive session. Nearly eight years of mediation yielded an Afghan political settlement last April, providing for the withdrawal of more than 100,000 Soviet troops.

Warring Iran and Iraq accepted a U.N. ceasefire resolution and peace plan, and difficult peace negotiations between the two began last month in Geneva. A U.N. peacekeeping force is deployed in the Gulf region.

In southern Africa, a 1975 U.N. peace plan for the independence of Namibia, or South-West Africa, is expected to be implemented. Cuban troops are expected to start withdrawing from Angola, and a U.N. peacekeeping force is to be deployed in that area.

In North Africa, both the Polisario guerrillas and the Moroccan government have accepted a U.N. peace plan for the Western Sahara.

Diplomats said because of improved superpower relations, the time appears right for resolution of numerous other regional conflicts, such as Kampuchea.

Belligerents, who only a short time ago were unwilling to speak to each other, are now negotiating," Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a speech on peacekeeping last week.

"They are requesting the United Nations to assist them in finding solutions to disputes... this proves once again that through patience and persistence, it is possible to reverse what once seemed an inevitable rush to destruction."

On Friday, he told U.N. employees: "We are not yet free from the financial crisis. At the same time, however, we may be about to begin a new chapter in the history of the organisation."

Perez de Cuellar has said that partial payment of U.S. dues alleviates the immediate financial crisis, and the world body no longer will be forced to close its doors in November, as had been threatened.

### Another one on the loose

ISLAND HEIGHTS, New Jersey (AP) — Residents who reported seeing a creature that resembled a crocodile were relieved to hear that police caught a nearly one-metre lizard, but now a larger animal is out and about. The unidentified owner retrieved the smaller lizard, but then returned to police in this ocean county community and admitted that another lizard, his "Golden Tegu" — a 1.5-metre version — has been on the loose for about a month.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Sikh rebels kill opposition leader

CHANDIGARH (R) — Sikh separatists assassinated the leader of an opposition party in Punjab Monday, two days before Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was due to visit the northern Indian state, police said. They said hit Abhijit, Punjab head of the Bharatiya Janata (BJP), died in a hail of automatic gunfire as he left his office in Chandigarh, the Punjab capital. Police said two Sikhs militants leapt out of a van as Abhijit walked from his office to a car, opened fire with AK-47 assault rifles and then drove off at high speed. Abhijit's bodyguard was seriously injured in the shooting, which tore up the car the BJP leader was about to enter.

#### Mass arrests in Los Angeles sweep

LOS ANGELES (R) — Police arrested 750 people in anti-gang sweeps through parts of Los Angeles during the weekend, but two people were killed and five wounded in suspected gangland shootings. A 16-year-old boy was shot dead in an alley and a 19-year-old youth was killed and a friend wounded in a burst of gunfire from a passing car, police said. The deaths brought to 212 the number killed in gangland shootings in Los Angeles so far this year. An estimated 70,000 people, mostly young men and boys who live in the city's slums, are believed to belong to gangs, which play a big role in the thriving Los Angeles cocaine market.

#### Poll finds concern over population

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of people in the United States favour financial assistance for family planning programmes in rapidly growing nations, according to a new poll done for a pair of population groups. Sixty per cent of adults polled by Louis Harris and Associates said the United States should fund foreign family planning programmes, regardless of whether abortion is legal in those nations. But more than one-third of people in the United States, 34 per cent, disagreed, according to the poll prepared for the Population Crisis Committee and the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Providing financial support for family planning has been a bone of contention in recent years, with the Agency for International Development withdrawing support from countries where abortion is a part of the programmes.

#### Allies seek to halt Argentine missile

WASHINGTON (R) — Western allies are seeking to halt or set back development of a medium-range missile by Argentina, the Washington Post said Monday. It said the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada, at a meeting in Rome Sept. 8-9, designated the Condor II missile as a leading project of concern in their effort to curb the spread of missiles capable of carrying nuclear weapons. The newspaper quoted unidentified sources as saying the seven nations agreed to use export controls and diplomatic persuasion to try to prevent production of the missile. It said the missile, with a range of 6,800 to 10,000 kilometres and a payload of about 350 kilograms, would likely be exported to the Middle East because Iraq and Egypt were helping in its development.

#### Afghan premier in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Afghan Prime Minister Mohammad Hassan Sharq arrived in Moscow from Soviet Tadzhikistan Monday on the second day of a visit to the Soviet Union, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported. It said he was met by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryazikov and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. On Sunday, Sharq met the prime ministers of Tadzhikistan and Uzbekistan and the first deputy prime minister of Turkmenia in the Tadzhik capital Dushanbe. All three republics border Afghanistan.